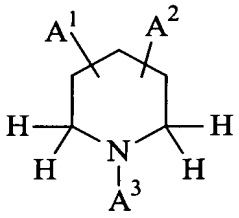
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

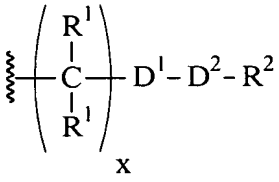
Claims 1-16 (*Previously cancelled*)

Claim 17. (*Currently amended*) A compound having the structure:



~~or an optical isomer, diastereomer, enantiomer, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or amide, ester, or imide susceptible to being cleaved *in vivo* by a mammalian subject to yield the compound,~~ wherein:

(a) A^1 and A^2 are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a group having the structure:

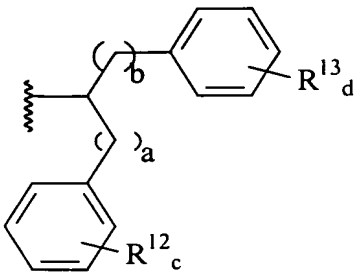


with the proviso that at A^1 and A^2 are not both hydrogen atoms, and wherein:

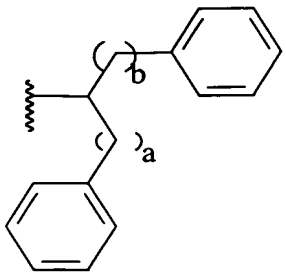
(i) each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;

(ii) x is 0 or 1;

(iii) each R^2 is independently selected from the group consisting of:



and



wherein:

(a) a is at least 2;

(b) b is at least 2;

(c) c is 1 to 3;

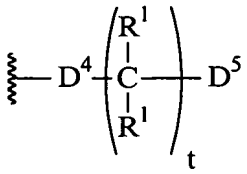
(d) d is 1 to 3; and

(e) R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon groups and substituted hydrocarbon groups; and

(iv) ~~D^1 and D^2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of C(O) and NH ; with the proviso that wherein when D^1 is NH then D^2 is C(O) , and wherein when D^2 is NH then D^1 is C(O) ;~~ D^1 is -C(O)-; and,

(v) D^2 is –NH-.

(b) A^3 has the structure:



wherein:

(i) each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;

(ii) t is from 0 to 6;

(iii) D^4 is $-CH(R^1)-$;

(iv) D^5 is $-OR^6$; and

(v) R^6 is selected from the group consisting of a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, an aromatic group, and a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 18. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 1.

Claim 19. (*Previously added)* The compound according to claim 17 wherein x is 0.Claim 20. (*Currently cancelled*)

Claim 21. (*Currently cancelled*)

Claim 22. (*Currently cancelled*)

Claim 23. (*Previously amended*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein t is 0 to 2.

Claim 24. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein R^6 is a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 25. (*Previously added*) A composition comprising:

(a) the compound according to Claim 1; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 26. (*Previously added*) A method selected from the group consisting of treating multidrug resistance, inhibiting transport protein activity, combinations thereof, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment or inhibition an effective amount of the composition according to Claim 2.